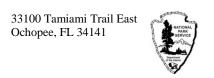
Big Cypress National Preserve



# 05/13/2011 Jarhead Fire Update

Florida

Southwest Area Incident Management Team Incident Commander: Dugger Hughes

Public Information Officer: Mike Johnson, 402-250-5017 (cell)

Public Affairs Officer/Landowner Contact: Bob DeGross, 239-695-1107, 239-293-3643 (cell)

Jarhead Fire Information: 239-695-0031

Fire Facts:

Location: Center of Big Cypress National Preserve Size: approximately 38,130 acres (as of 1700 5/12/11)

Percent Contained: 95%

Cause: lightning

Number of Personnel: 222

Date started: 04/26/2011

Estimated Containment Date: 5/18/2011

Injuries to Date: two (minor)

Aircraft: 1 type 1, 1 type 2, and 1 type 3 helicopters Equipment: 10 fire swamp buggies, 9 engines

Crews: 1 type 1

## **General Information/Announcements:**

The National Park Service has established incident priorities that include firefighter and public safety, protecting private property, threatened and endangered species and their habitat, and natural and cultural resources. NPS resource advisors continue to work with crews to assess resource impacts and appropriate firefighting tactics.

Smoke may reduce visibility somewhat on U. S. 41 south of the Jarhead Fire this morning. Smoke should clear by mid-morning.

#### **Today's Activity:**

Patrol, monitor, and mop up operations will continue on the entire Jarhead Fire perimeter as needed. Yesterday at approximately 5 PM firefighters responded to two new lightning caused fires west of the Jarhead fire, on the Big Cypress National Preserve. Firefighters, engines, and helicopters with buckets aggressively attacked these fires until late evening. The 120 acre Birdon Fire is contained, and patrol and mop up will continue today. The 110 acre Copeland Fire will be fully contained today.

All resources that are no longer needed are being released to their home units or to assignments on other fires. Management of the Jarhead Fire will be turned back to the Big Cypress National Preserve at 3:00 PM today.

#### Closures/Advisories:

The Preserve is closed west of Oasis Visitor Center to Turner River Road, south of I-75 and north of U.S. 41. This closure includes the Florida National Scenic Trail within the area and the Oasis ORV access.

## **Public Safety Message:**

Please be aware of and observe area closures in effect due to aerial and firefighting operations. Drivers on U.S. 41 and I-75 should exercise extreme caution due to smoke and fire vehicle traffic.

# **Partners/Cooperators**

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge, Everglades National Park, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seminole Tribe of Florida, Ochopee Fire District, Everglades City Fire District, Florida Division of Forestry, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection, Collier County Sheriff's Department, Collier County Emergency Operations Center, Collier County Health Department.

The Southwest Area Incident Management Team took responsibility for fire suppression on 5/1/2011. The team is managing the fire under the direction of Big Cypress National Preserve, a unit of the National Park Service.

#### For More Information

 $\frac{http://www.nps.gov/naturescience/2011-jarhead-fire.htm}{http://www.nps.gov/fire/\ ,\ http://www.inciweb.org}$